

Application No.: PCT/GB00/03055

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above amendments are being submitted in connection with the national stage filing of the present Application. The amendments eliminate the multiple dependent claims from the Application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

To expedite prosecution, Applicant's counsel requests a telephone interview to discuss any issues that may arise, even prior to a first Office Action. Counsel can be reached directly at (303) 863-2977.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

By: 

Joseph E. Kovarik
Registration No. 33,005
1560 Broadway, Suite 1200
Denver, Colorado 80202-5141
(303) 863-9700

Date: 2/14/02

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 1-12 have been amended as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A cup comprising a sealingly engageable lid having a drinking spout located thereon, a tubular passage having a first end and a second end, said passage formed between an inner surface of the lid and/or an inside of said spout, and a detachable member located on the lid, said first end of said passage being [the passage having one end] in communication with an[the] inside of the cup and said second end being[the other end] in communication with an[the] outside of the spout, and said passage being of such a diameter [such] that air cannot readily bubble past liquid inside said passage[it].

2. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 1 wherein [the capacity of] the passage [is] has a capacity great enough to contain liquid without any of said liquid [it] reaching an[the] exit of said cup and therefore spilling.

3. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 1, [either of claims 1 or 2] wherein [the volume of] the passage has a volume that is greater than the maximum value of HxV[as hereinbefore defined].

4. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 1, wherein[any of claims 1 to 3 in which] the detachable member is in the form of a plug which fits into the inside of the spout and is sealingly engaged thereto[, e.g., by an interference fit].

5. A cup as claimed in claim 4, wherein [in which] the plug has an elongate channel on its surface which, in cooperation with the inside of the spout, forms the passage.

6. A cup as claimed in claim 5, wherein [4 in which] the channel is formed on the inside of the spout or on both the spout and the plug.

7. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 4, wherein[any of claims 1 to 6 in which] the plug is easily removable and replaceable by a user[, enabling the inside of] to enable the passage to be exposed for mechanical cleaning.

8. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 4, wherein [any of claims 1 to 7 in which] the plug is made from a resiliently compressible material, such as an elastomer.

9. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 1,[any of claims 1 to 8] wherein the lid has a spout located eccentrically so as to be convenient for drinking from.

10. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 9 wherein the spout is in the shape of a truncated cone, with a small bore at the top, and a detachable member, in the form of a plug, that has a helical channel around its exterior surface and [it also] has an outline matching [the] an inside of a cavity of the spout[’s cavity].

11. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 1,[any of claims 1 to 10] wherein the diameter of the passage is such that air is prevented from entering past the liquid[, for example] and wherein said diameter has a maximum diameter of approximately 3mm.

12. (Once Amended) A cup as claimed in claim 1,[any of claims 1 to 11] having a capacity of 200cc and wherein the capacity of the passage is about 1.2 cc.